

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 00864 241218Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 241030Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1641

S E C R E T CAIRO 0864

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US OVIP

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE HEGAZI VISIT TO US

1. AS DEPT AWARE, PRIMIN HEGAZI HAS FOR SOME TIME EXPRESSED INTEREST IN VISITING THE US. HE INITIALLY PLANNED TO ATTEND LAST FALL'S IMF/IBRD MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON, BUT PRESS OF BUSINESS PRECLUDED HIS DOING SO. SUBSEQUENTLY, HE TALKED ABOUT GOING IN MID-DECEMBER AND, THROUGH INTERMEDIARIES, APPEARED TO BE ANGLING FOR A FORMAL INVITATION. IN VIEW UNCERTAINTY OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT, I THOUGHT IT BEST AT THE TIME TO REFUSE TO TAKE THE HINT. SINCE HEGAZI WOULD ON ANY SUCH TRIP EXPECT TO COME BACK WITH SOMETHING, IT SEEMED BEST TO HOLD WHATEVER MODEST THINGS WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO GIVE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP WHENEVER THAT MIGHT BE.

2. AT LUNCHEON GIVEN BY HEGAZI THREE DAYS AGO IN ASWAN, I TOLD HIM I HAD NOT FORGOTTEN HIS EARLIER INTEREST IN VISITING THE US AND WONDERED WHETHER HE HAD FORMULATED ANY PLANS. HEGAZI RESPONDED THAT, "FOR POLITICAL REASONS," HE COULD NOT VISIT THE US FORMALLY UNTIL AFTER PRESIDENT SADAT'S TRIP, WHENEVER THAT MIGHT BE. I TOLD HIM I FULLY UNDERSTOOD HIS VIEW AND HAD ASSUMED THIS TO BE THE CASE.

3. I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT IF HE SHOULD BE MAKING A TRIP TO THE US FOR PRIVATE BUSINESS OR TO ATTEND IMF/IBRD MEETINGS, WE WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY OF SEEING HIM IN WASHINGTON. I RECALLED THE SECRETARY HAD SEVERAL MONTHS

SECRET

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 00864 241218Z

AGO INDICATED THAT HE WOULD BE PLEASE TO HOST THE

PRIMIN ON ANY SUCH VISIT AND I ALSO KNOW SECRETARY SIMON
WOULD BE PLEASE TO SEE HIM.

4. HEGAZI SAID HE AND HIS WIFE ARE INTERESTED IN VISITING THE
US AS SOON AS FEASIBLE. MDAME HAGZTI'S HEALTH CONTINUES
TO BE BAD AND HE IS ANXIOUS TO HAVE HER HAVE A MEDICAL
CHECK-UP IN THE US. SHOULD SHE PROCEED WITHOUT HIM, HE WOULD
LET ME KNOW.
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

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